



Partners in Faith & Action

June and Summer 2016

MASS CELEBRATIONS

During summer vacation, do not forget to celebrate your faith as a family at Mass.

Masses at NDV Church are Saturday at 5:15 p.m., Sunday at 7:30 a.m., 9:00 a.m., 10:30 a.m. (French Mass), 12:15 p.m., and 5:30 p.m. There are also weekday Masses at 7 a.m., and 12:10 pm. Check Mass schedules at your Church.

While you are on vacation, celebrate Mass at the local Church. There are several websites which show Catholic Churches in cities in the United States, locations, Mass times, etc. Check out www.parishesonline.com, www.masstimes.org, or www.thecatholicdirectory.com



ASSUMPTION OF MARY

August 15th is the Feast of the Assumption of Mary, a holy day of obligation. For hundreds of years the Church observed the feast of the Assumption of Mary, but it wasn't until November 1, 1950 that Pope Pius XII proclaimed as dogma that Mary, the immaculate Mother of God, was taken body and soul (physically and spiritually) into heaven. Learn more about this feast day at www.newadvent.org/cathen/02006b.htm www.americancatholic.org/features/saints/saint.aspx?id=1108

SUMMER ACTIVITIES

I am sure that many plans have been made for the summer; however, here are a couple of ideas that you might consider to provide service to the community, and to share your faith with your children.

1. Your family might offer your services at the Gubbio Project, Glide or St. Anthony's, a hospital, nursing home or some other organization near you. Remember, there are people in need all year. They don't go on vacation.

2. Decorate flower pots and fill them with soil and flowers or succulents to give to others who need cheering up.

3. When looking for camps, check your Church to see if they have a Vacation Bible School.

4. Read books to your children. There are several good books for children about saints and popes. Check out the Max Lucado books for children.

5. Take some summer field trips: shrines, the California missions, attend a Latin Mass, participate in a novena, visit a saint's burial site, or visit a Cathedral.

6. Take some time to relax and reflect. Try the 3 minute retreat at www.loyolapress.com/3-minute-retreats-daily-online-prayer.htm.

ACTIVITIES ON THE INTERNET



Are you tired of your children playing video games? Check out some of these websites for activities which might be done as a family on the computer during this summer vacation.

1. www.thebricktestament.com/home.html -- Bible stories are told using legos.

2. Several publishers of Religion Curriculum materials also have web sites with various activities for children. You might check out:

<http://www.loyolapress.com/our-catholic-faith.htm> -- Check out Catholic Kids, Catholic Teens, and Family, Faith and Fun,

<http://www.faithfirst.com> -- games and activities under students, resources under parents.

www.dltk-bible.com/

http://www.catholicmom.com/catholic_kids.htm

www.jclubcatholic.org

<http://www.domestic-church.com/CONTENT.DCC/pages.dir/frige.htm>

<http://catholicblogger1.blogspot.com/>

TUNE-UP FOR YOUR SUMMER PRAYER LIFE

Each summer, when we are away from the religious experiences afforded by school opportunities, be sure to think about how important your faith is to you.


**KEEP HOLY THE LORD'S DAY:
MASS ON SATURDAY/SUNDAY**

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Serve at Mass. • Locate a Catholic church when traveling. • Encourage family members to join you. • Receive Eucharist. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Join in praying/singing. • Think about readings/homily. • Keep focused. • Talk to Jesus in prayer. • Get to church on time and don't leave early.
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LIBRARY/READING PROGRAM

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Find the section about saints at the library. • Research the popes. • Join the library summer reading program. • Use internet to access Vatican info. • Use internet to access your diocese. • Check out videos about saints. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research history of the Catholic Church in your area. • Read books about prayer to your siblings. • Choose a craft book to make a religious project. • Check out a religious magazine. • Read your diocesan newspaper.
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<p style="text-align: center;">PRAYERS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eucharistic adoration • Rosary • Find a "prayer service" in nature. • While exercising • In hospitals • At the doctor's/dentist's • With friends and family • Teach children • Morning/evening • Before/after meals 	<p style="text-align: center;">SERVICE TO OTHERS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Help the elderly • Picnic cleanup • Gardening • Visits • Reading to those with poor eyesight • Chores • Brothers/sisters • Parents • (VBS) Vacation Bible School
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<p style="text-align: center;">SUMMER RELIGIOUS FIELD TRIPS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cathedrals • Shrines • Traditional church (with Communion rail and Latin Mass) • Cloistered order • Novenas • Saint's burial site • Retreat 	 <p style="text-align: center;">POCKET TUNE-UP FOR YOUR SUMMER PRAYER LIFE</p>
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(This activity was written by Jean Grant, St. Charles, MO. for *Today's Catholic Teacher*, April/May 2015.)



SUMMER SAINTS

Another activity you could do as a family is to learn more about saints. Perhaps you and your child could put together a booklet

with the Saint's name, a little about the saint's life, and perhaps a quote by the saint that is meaningful to you. Or identify the patron saint of different occupations such as teachers, tailors, musicians, doctors, lawyers, etc. Some of the summer saints are:

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| June 5 | St. Boniface |
| June 13 | St. Anthony of Padua |
| June 21 | St. Aloysius Gonzaga |
| June 28 | St. Irenaeus |
| June 29 | Sts. Peter and Paul |
| July 1 | Blessed Junipero Serra |
| July 3 | St. Thomas |
| July 11 | St. Benedict |
| July 14 | Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha |
| July 15 | St. Bonaventure |
| July 22 | St. Mary Magdalene |
| July 26 | Sts. Joachim and Anne |
| July 29 | St. Martha |
| July 31 | St. Ignatius Loyola |
| August 1 | St. Alphonsus Liguori |
| August 4 | St. John Mary Vianney |
| August 8 | St. Dominic |
| August 11 | St. Clare |
| August 14 | St. Maximilian Mary Kolbe |
| August 20 | St. Bernard |
| August 21 | St. Pius X |

You can information about these saints and others at:

<http://www.americancatholic.org/Features/Saints/bydate.aspx>.

Other sites to look at are:

- <http://www.catholic.org/saints/>
- <http://saints/sqpn.com>
- www.jclubcatholic.org
- www.americancatholic.org



Let's put ourselves into the hands of the Lord, and pray that God will bless us and our families during the wonderful months of summer. May we all help make our home a place of relaxation, joy, love, peace and safety. May we be generous and considerate, not thinking only about ourselves, but helping others enjoy the blessings of summertime. Lord God, Creator of all things, guide our steps and strengthen our hearts, during these months of summer and vacation days. Grant us refreshment of mind and body. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.